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# WILL AVENGE HIS MOTHER'S MURDER

Schlitz Neither Sleeps Nor Rests, Hunting the City.

SHE BURNED TO DEATH.

A Cripple, the Aged Woman Was Trapped in a Tenement Fire.

"I'M GOING TO KILL HIM."

The Youth's Vow Against the Man Who Put the Torch to the Basement.

STARTED IN WAROSHILL'S STORE.

He Has Been Missing Since the Tragedy, and the Fire Marshall Wants the Man as a Witness.

Fred Schlitz's old mother was roasted slowly to death in a tenement fire in the small hours on Thursday morning, and Fred Schlitz is scouring the city in search of the man whom he firmly believes to have set the house on fire.

"I'm going to kill him!" he cried yesterday. "I'll hunt him to his death!" This thought of vengeance, burning in the young man's brain for five days has converted him from a gentle, affectionate German of rather phlegmatic temperament to a haggard creature with blazing eyes and furious gestures. His friends say that he has not slept since he looked upon the disfigured body of his mother at dawn last Thursday, after he had been called from his work to face this tragedy.

Marcus Waroshill has not been seen near No. 229 East Ninety-fifth street since the morning when a fire, starting in his store, ate its way through to the stairs and climbed nearly to the roof, driving all the tenants to flee skyward for safety. Fire Marshal Mitchell is anxious to find him.

Fred Schlitz has visited the marshal, in the course of a frenzied hunt for the object of his vengeance, and communicated all the grounds for his suspicions to that functionary. The janitor of the building, Thomas Bender, has told the Fire Marshal of circumstances which lead him to think that the former tenant's testimony might throw some light on the origin of the fire.

Waroshill kept a little fancy goods store on the first floor, and lived with his wife in apartments at the rear. Mrs. Waroshill, when gossiping with the janitor's wife not many weeks ago, mentioned that before she and her husband rented the store, in January, they had kept a laundry in East Broadway, and had been burned out. She further intimated that they had been heavily insured.

Since the fire it has been remarked that the Waroshills had a very large stock in trade.

**Youth and Aged Mother.**  
The Schlitz family lived on the third floor, at the rear. There were only two of them—Fred and his mother. A married daughter lived on the floor above.

Fred Schlitz worked as a night watchman at Fifty-ninth street and Third avenue. He is twenty-eight years old, but looked like a mere boy—an honest simple-minded boy—before the event that filled his heart with bitterness and hate. His mother, his devotion to whom was the marvel of the neighbors, was over sixty, and none too active. She was a woman of heavy build and had fallen into flesh. A few months ago she broke her leg and lost a great deal of strength while lying crippled in bed.

The fire in Waroshill's store started at 3 o'clock on Thursday morning. When it reached the stairs it sped upward with great rapidity and quickly converted the whole part of the building into a furnace. The owner of the building, Andrew Widman, who also lived there, was rescued with some difficulty. His son, William, who works as a musical director under the name William Lorraine, dragged him and old Mrs. Widman, both of whom are feeble, to a rear fire escape and thence helped them to descend to the back yard.

**Fleeing from the Center.**  
Many of the tenants found safety by reaching the roof. Old Mrs. Schlitz tried to follow their example. Her stalwart son was away at his work, and there was none to aid her. She had hardly yet recovered the use of her injured leg, and every motion was painful. But the flames and the smoke spurred her, and she managed to reach the floor above, where she encountered her daughter, Josephine.

Other fugitives were warning up a narrow iron ladder which led from the upper hallway to a skylight opening on the roof. Mrs. Schlitz's daughter followed them a few rungs at a time, helping her mother to follow and encouraging her with hand and voice.

At the best of times it would have been an extraordinary feat for the old invalid to accomplish, but she was choking with smoke by this time, and the exertion she had already undergone had begun to tell on her enfeebled frame. Nevertheless, she managed to mount almost to the top of the ladder. Then her strength gave way and she fell heavily to the floor.

**Death by Torture.**  
It was with confusion, other tenants dragged and pushed Josephine to the roof, and the old woman was left to her fate. And when Fred Schlitz returned home at 7 o'clock that morning, having heard of the fire, his mother's body was still lying in the charred hallway, near a puddle of black water which had trickled from those who were near him when he looked upon it. He did not care to talk about how he showed his emotion.

Waroshill and his wife were not to be found. Their apartments were uninjured. Yesterday Mr. Widman learned that Waroshill was still living at his brother's, a jeweler, at Fourth and Grand streets.



RUSSIAN ARMY COMPARED WITH ENGLAND AND JAPAN



## RUSSIA FACES GREAT ODDS.

Anglo-Japanese Combination Too Powerful on Sea and Land to Be Resisted by the Czar.

### Strength of England, Japan and Russia.

Military.	
England's present army numbers all told.	715,000 men
Japan's army now serving with the colors numbers.	284,741 men
Total.	
England's total peace footing of army.	1,000,000 men
Russia's total peace footing of army.	535,000 men
Japan's total peace footing of army.	2,500,000 men
It is impossible to give any correct idea of the war footing of Great Britain and of Japan, since, although in ordinary times the English army is recruited by voluntary enlistment, a law exists which enables the Government, if enlistment does not yield the required results, to oblige every able-bodied man between the ages of twenty and fifty to do compulsory military service.	
Naval.	
England's fleet numbers, men-of-war and cruisers.	496
Torpedo boats.	200
British, total.	
Japan's navy comprises, men-of-war.	696
Wooden war ships.	46
Torpedo boats.	16
Japanese, total.	
Total of allied fleet.	785
Russia's fleet, men-of-war and torpedo boats.	200

**G**REAT enthusiasm in England has been aroused by the naval demonstration at Chemulpo, which is held to indicate that Lord Salisbury is determined to assert Great Britain's position as the predominant factor in Chinese affairs.

The belief prevails in London that Russia will back down when brought face to face with the overwhelmingly powerful Anglo-Japanese combination, and this conviction leads to the English receiving the news of the occupation with delight.

**London, Dec. 27.**—It is difficult to describe the satisfaction with which the general public has received here the news of the demonstration of the British squadron in overwhelming force off the coast of Corea. Lord Salisbury has given way so frequently to foreign powers of late years, and has done so much backing down in Africa and elsewhere, that it was feared he would permit the vast commercial and political interests of England in China to be sacrificed without offering anything but a feeble and unheeded protest in their defense.

In fact, the comic papers here have already been caricaturing the hasty British Premier in the act of being cuffed and hustled out of China by the Czar and by the Kaiser, and even the Tories expressed a desire that a man of the decision of character and boldness of the Liberal ex-Premier, Lord Rosebery, might be intrusted with the direction of England's foreign interests instead of Lord Salisbury, who was on a memorable occasion described by Prince Bismarck as a "wooden lathe painted to resemble iron."

The appearance of a squadron of no less than seventeen British men-of-war off Chemulpo has served to restore the confidence of the English people in the present Administration, and has given them the assurance that Lord Salisbury does not propose to abdicate John Bull's position in China without striking a blow. It has aroused a fever of patriotism from one end of the kingdom to the other, and Liberals unite with Conservatives in commending the action of the Government.

It has even proved sufficient to avert any undue alarm being caused by the announcement this afternoon that the Russians have occupied Kien-Chau, north of Port Arthur, since they realize that Russia is powerless to hold it in the event of any real pressure being brought to bear against her either by England alone or by England united with Japan.

The demonstration does not necessarily involve the presentation of an ultimatum to the ruler of Corea, as has been stated by some of the morning papers here, since the English people have long since made up their minds to concede the possession of Corea to Russia, which really needs the Peninsula in connection with its gigantic enterprise now approaching completion.

## SMASH GOES THE OVERMAN WHEEL CO

Big Bicycle Concern Fails for Over Half a Million.

END OF A LONG BATTLE. Invasion of Victor Territory by the Spaldings, the Cause of the Failure.

ASSETS SET AT \$1,318,000.

Shops Closed Down and Hundreds of Employees Turned Out Without Notice.

Springfield, Mass., Dec. 27.—The Overman Wheel Company, of Chicopee Falls, Mass., with agencies in all the principal cities of the country, manufacturers of the Victor bicycle, made an assignment to-day to President Bowman, of the Springfield National Bank. The liabilities are estimated at \$339,000, and assets at \$1,318,000. It is one of the most prominent wheel concerns in the country. A meeting of the creditors has been called for December 31. The shops closed to-night, throwing several hundred employees out of work.

Behind this assignment is a story which has for years interested bicycle builders and the manufacturers of sporting goods. The Overman Wheel Company is best known to the general public as the maker of the Victor bicycle. When the present style of wheel—the so-called safety—was first built, the Overmans were quickly in the market with their machines.

Their entire output was for several years handled and controlled by the Spaldings. The distribution was entirely in their hands. This arrangement was supposed to be a good business arrangement for both parties. The Spaldings were saved the expense of establishing a plant for the manufacture of wheels, and the Overmans had the advantage of the Spalding agencies in all the large cities of the country.

Things went along smoothly until four or five years ago, when a serious misunderstanding occurred. The Spaldings broke away from the Overmans. The Overmans instituted a big damage suit against their former agents. The latter replied with a counter suit for thousands of dollars.

The Spaldings followed this up by establishing a factory in the ballfield of the Overmans, in Chicopee Falls, and began making their own wheels. This was answered by the Overmans by an extension of their plant. They were soon in the market with a complete line of baseball bats, footballs, boxing gloves; in short, everything in the sporting goods line that the Spaldings made.

Agencies were established in all the large cities, and then began the work of cutting into the Spalding trade. The Spalding baseball had for years been used by the National League. The Overmans tried to get their baseball adopted by the old organization. They did not succeed, but eventually got their ball used in several minor leagues. The same rivalry characterized all the other branches of the sporting goods business, and for years the rivalry has been very bitter.

The Overman Company has always been a stickler for list prices, even after the slump late this season, clinging to \$100. It is expected that this failure will therefore have a marked effect in the trade.

Very little information could be obtained from Manager William C. Overman, at his home, No. 16 Hawthorne avenue, East Orange, last night. He would not give an interview, and talked from behind closed doors hesitatingly. Mr. Overman said he had heard nothing of a failure of the concern.

**Wouldn't Clean City Hall Plaza.**  
The plaza in front of the City Hall, with the exception of a portion of the crosswalk, remained covered with snow yesterday. There was a disagreement between the Park Department and the Department of Public Works a few years ago as to which was responsible for the cleaning of the plaza, and the Corporation Counsel decided that the Park Department should do it. There is a new man in charge of the park cleaners this year, and he refused to have his men do the work yesterday.

## POLITICS RUINED SINGERLY'S BANK.

Queer Finances Known of by Eckels Two Years Ago, Yet the Ruin Was Not Averted.

### Comptroller Eckels Knew It All Two Years Ago.

I have known of the condition of the Chestnut Street National Bank for two years. At that time its affairs were in bad shape and were brought to my attention.

One year ago I could have closed the bank, but it would not have done. It was in election time.—Comptroller Eckels, in an interview.

**O**UT of the suspension of the Chestnut Street National Bank and the Chestnut Street Trust and Savings Fund Company there is growing a story of questionable financing, of loans made in disregard of the national banking laws, and a complication of political and personal interests which made it possible for nearly \$600,000 of the people's money—city, State and national funds—to be tied up, if not irretrievably lost, in the failures.

There is another story—a story of strange passivity—of the Comptroller of the Currency in permitting the Chestnut Street National Bank to continue doing business for two years after he knew that its affairs were in a perilous condition; permitted it also to remain a repository for funds of the United States Government.

Mr. Eckels has stated that he was advised of the shaky condition of the bank many months ago, but did not close it up instantly, because if he had done so at that time other Philadelphia banks would have inevitably succumbed. He has further stated that he was confident of President Singlerly's ability and resources to pull the tottering institution together again.

As a result of Comptroller Eckels's leniency and Mr. Singlerly's reckless banking methods, the two institutions have succumbed, with liabilities of nearly \$4,000,000 and assets which conservative financiers do not estimate at more than one-fourth of that amount. The accounts of 50,000 depositors are jeopardized, and the wreck, it is feared, will be as complete as that of the Keystone National Bank, some years ago.

**Philadelphia, Dec. 27.**—The suspension of the Chestnut Street National Bank and the Chestnut Street Trust and Savings Fund Company, which was announced yesterday, is still the leading topic of conversation in commercial circles. But even the not speak in anger of the man whose reckless methods of business, as it now appears, involved his affairs and those of thousands of others in an almost hopeless tangle. All Philadelphia pities Singlerly, who at sixty-five is obliged to look upon the wreck of his life work, and most of Philadelphia implicitly believes in him, despite the facts and rumors with which the air is filled.

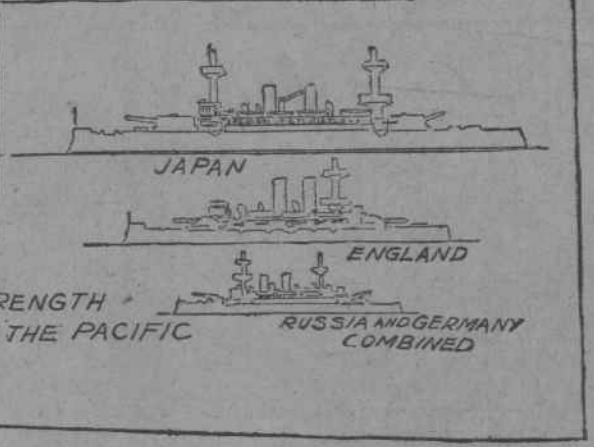
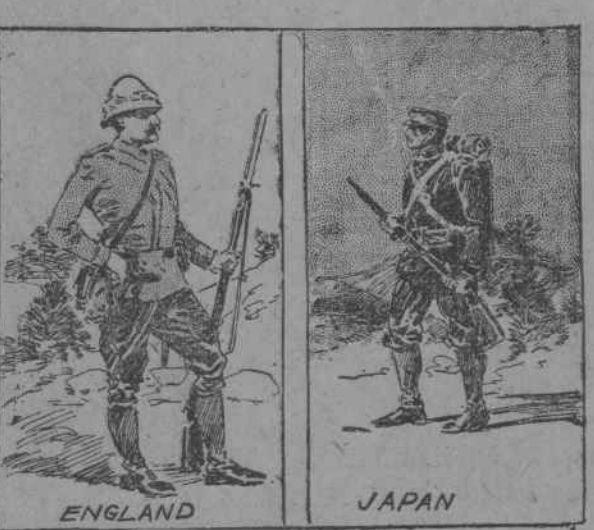
The worst of these stories has it that the bank accepted deposits up to the very hour of closing its doors. It is alleged, too, that political "deals" between President Singlerly and city and State officials kept immense deposits of the people's money in the wrecked institutions after their unsafe condition had become a matter of public knowledge. Nearly \$400,000 of public funds, including the Teachers' Annuity and Pension Fund, are tied up, if not irretrievably lost in the failure.

**Eckels's Strange Admission.**  
Comptroller Eckels has admitted that he became aware of the bank's unsafe condition fully two years ago, but did not close it up at that time because to have done so would have precipitated the failure of other Philadelphia banks.

It now appears that Mr. Singlerly had borrowed immense sums from the bank and the trust company, and that he is practically insolvent. The schedule of his estimated indebtedness foots up a grand total of \$2,050,000, of which amount he is said to owe the bank and the trust company over \$1,500,000.

Comptroller Eckels was here immediately after the suspension of the bank, ostensibly to consult as to the best method of straightening out its affairs. He returned to Washington, Friday with his deputy, and Bank Examiner Harist is left with a large force of clerks to dig out in detail the story of reckless financial methods which, when fully told, will, it is intimated, explain Comptroller Eckels's official leniency more satisfactorily than does his own statement.

**Singerly's Life Story.**  
It is here necessary to go back somewhat into history. William M. Singlerly, on the



## SENATE AFTER HANNA'S SPIES.

Government Agents Employed as Political Sleuths.

QUEER SECRET SERVICE.

Upper House Will Inquire Into the Senator's Methods.

IN HIS OHIO CAMPAIGN.

Foraker, Bushnell and Kurtz Shadowed by a Flock of Post Office Inspectors.

DOG THEM AT EVERY TURN

An Investigation Brewing Which Will Give the Former Manager of McKinley's Battle Some Unpleasant Quarter Hours.

**Washington, Dec. 27.**—A resolution will be introduced in the Senate immediately after the holiday recess calling upon the Secretary of the Treasury and the Postmaster-General for information as to what extent the Secret Service and the Post Office Inspectors have been employed in Senator Hanna's campaign in Ohio for election to the Senate.

Senator Foraker and his friends, both in Washington and in Ohio, have been aware for some time that the tactics employed in Sherman's memorable battle against Foraker for the Ohio Legislature in 1881, have been again brought into requisition by Senator Hanna. And now, as then, Foraker and Kurtz and the suspected anti-Hanna members of the legislature are under espionage. This work of dogging the footsteps of all whom Hanna suspects of disloyalty is being done without written orders, but none the less officially sanctioned, by Treasury detectives and post office inspectors, and Hanna is in receipt of reports daily as to what each suspect is doing and the people he is seeing.

**Dogging Their Footsteps.**  
Foraker has been more annoyed by the persistency with which the shadows have hung to Kurtz and Bushnell, than by the dogging of his own footsteps. The Government agents have paid little attention to him while in Washington, but when the Senator went to Ohio the week before adjournment, he was closely watched, and frequent inquiries were made of his servants to know if Governor Bushnell had been there. And when Governor Bushnell went to his Springfield home, the same week, on business, other mysterious strangers likewise inquired if Foraker had been there. When it was learned that Foraker had gone to Columbus, thought it was to appear before the Supreme Court, the wires between that city and Washington were kept busy with information as to what moves he was making.

But the closest and most persistent shadowing was done when National Committeeman Charles P. Kurtz came over to Washington from New York to see John R. McLean. He knew he had been followed from Ohio-East, but in his New York hotel he managed to lose the Government sleuths for a few hours and get out of the city. But they found the scent again before Kurtz had reached Philadelphia, and from the moment he stepped off the train on entering Washington, until he left the city, he was constantly under surveillance. He was followed to McLean's office and from there to his hotel, where he intended to register under an assumed name.

**Watched Like a Thief.**  
But as he picked up the pen he discovered he was watched and then boldly wrote it C. P. Kurtz. Kurtz did not succeed in deceiving Senator Hanna as to his mission in Washington, for bright and early the next morning the report was given, with circumstantial details, of a midnight conference at McLean's home and every move which he had hoped to keep dark was being made by Hanna and his agents as light as day.

It is not known that Hanna's agents have discovered that money has been abundantly used by the Kurtz Campaign, though it is well known that Hanna has a squad of secret service officers at Cincinnati keeping tabs on Senator Foraker and other political enemies of the opposition forces. Tomorrow Hanna's headquarters will be opened at the three leading hotels in this city, and the fight for the Senatorial term begun in earnest.

**Spies Busy in Columbus.**  
**Columbus, O., Dec. 27.**—The presence in the city of a large number of detectives has caused much comment in political circles. The secret service men have been dropping in from Washington for several days. They are alleged to have been sent here by Senator Hanna to watch Charles Kurtz and all others who are or might be in the anti-Hanna line in this section. It is known, too, that Hanna has a squad of secret service officers at Cincinnati keeping tabs on Senator Foraker and other political enemies of the opposition forces. Tomorrow Hanna's headquarters will be opened at the three leading hotels in this city, and the fight for the Senatorial term begun in earnest.

**Foraker Bothered by Spies.**  
**Cincinnati, Dec. 27.**—Senator J. B. Foraker is nursing a wrath that threatens to break out into a flame over the discovery that his footsteps and those of his family are being dogged by paid Government detectives. Hanna's use of the Government sleuths before the State election was exposed in this city, and they were given warning that they would get into trouble did they not be very circumspect. The Post Office Inspectors were used then, as now, to spy upon those opposed to Hanna. Every fourth evening came here to direct the movements of his men, whose names were known, but the atmosphere was made so hot for him that his secret plans were not carried out.

There are said to be fifteen or sixteen spies in Cincinnati under the direction of Extra U. S. Marshal, formerly Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General L. The spies are working under the guise of revenue service men.

**Too Many Irons.**  
The direct cause of the failure of both the bank and the trust company, it is said by well-informed financiers, lies in the fact that William M. Singlerly, president of both concerns, had borrowed for use in outside ventures of his own sums of money greatly in excess of 10 per cent of its capitalization.

**Continued on Second Page.**